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Mr. G. LAKSHMANA REDDI:—" Is it not due to want of butter-milk to him?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" It is not possible for me to say that now."

Law and Order—General

Alleged lathi charge on satyagrahis in Bezwada on 14th November 1932.

* 487 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mannu Kanakaya, Kadiyal Pichaya and six others were severely beaten with lathis when they were peacefully offering satyagraha before the Andhra Ratna Bhavana in Bezwada, on 14th November 1932;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that several of the volunteers fell down unconscious and were dragged by the Police into the Bhavana;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that they were treated in the Government Hospital, Bezwada; if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to state from the hospital records as to the number and nature of the injuries received by each;

(*d*) whether any attempt was made to arrest the persons without inflicting injuries on them; and

(*e*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The eight persons referred to attempted to enter into the Andhra Ratna Bhavan, a place notified and taken possession of under the Unlawful Association Ordinance (IV of 1932) and remaining in the possession of Government. The Police prevented entry into the building. A crowd assembled and in order to prevent a breach of the peace the volunteers were ordered to disperse. On their refusal to disperse, when warned, the volunteers were dispersed by force.

(*b*) In the act of forcible dispersal some of the volunteers fell down and refused to move. They were taken into the building until the arrival of a bus. They did not fall down unconscious.

(*c*) They were rendered first aid in the Government hospital and immediately discharged. The Government have asked the District Magistrate to report the number and nature of the injuries received.

(*d*) As the volunteers refused to disperse and in the opinion of the Police officer in charge there was a danger of a breach of the peace, forcible dispersal was considered to be the best way of dealing with the situation to prevent worse consequences.

(*e*) None.

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Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to call for a report from the District Magistrate and place it on the table of the House? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.—" The suggestion of the hon. Member, will be considered."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether any attempt was made to arrest the volunteers before they were beaten? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"It is stated in the answer. The Police had to use force to prevent a breach of the peace."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know as to which was about a cause of breach of the peace, whether the volunteers or the crowd that was collected there? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I suppose both."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know why then the volunteers were asked to be dispersed and not the crowd? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Because the volunteers were causing trouble."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether it was not a fact that the Police Officer wanted to punish the volunteers and insult them rather than arrest and bring them before the Court? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I do not think it is so."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE POSTPONEMENT OF DISTRICT AND TALUK BOARDS ELECTIONS IN THE KISTNA DISTRICT.

* Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi :—" I beg to move the adjournment motion that stands in my name and which runs thus—

' *That the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the Government Order passed on December 20th, 1932, postponing the District Boards and Taluk Boards elections in the Kistna district from 3rd January to 1st February 1933* '."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" I beg to second it."

* The hon. the President :—" I think the motion is in order, and I want to know whether any hon. Member objects to it.

" No objection having been taken, I fix 4 o'clock this afternoon for the moving of the motion."